Minutes of the Utah Technology Industry Council Meeting Held August 7, 2003 at the DCED

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 am. In attendance were:

Voting Members (Quorum present):

Paul Clayson - Fonix Corporation – Chair

Stan Lockhart - Micron - Co-Chair

John Sutherland -

Suzanne Winters - Battelle

Peter Genereaux - Exec. Research Group
Brad Bertoch - Wayne Brown Institute
Nancy Lyon - University of Utah

Brian Moss - ULSA

John Clay - Northrop Grumman

Other attendees:

Mark Renda - State of Utah-DCED Sharon Cox - State of Utah-DCED

Welcome and Introductions: The chairman introduced John Clay and welcomed him to the Council. He also welcomed back Peter Genereaux who had been away on an extended vacation.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting were approved with no corrections.

Membership: The Chairman informed the members that he had not yet contacted the new members who were voted in at the last meeting. Jane Stickel of BD Medical and Lee Weinthrop of Merit Medical were both approved as voting members. The Chairman and Brian Moss will contact each in order of priority suggested by the council, to determine their interest.

Committee reports:

Measurement Standards: With Rod Linton being absent from the meeting, no report was presented on this issue.

Best Practices:

Mark Renda distributed and explained a "State Incentive Programs" document published in the November 2002 Site Selection magazine which showed how Utah incentives compared to other states. Mark pointed out that Utah is challenged by the inflexibility of it's incentives. The chairman suggested that this might be an issue which the council may want to bring up with the Legislature.

John Sutherland gave a presentation showing a tax and incentive comparison study of 8 States carried out by the DCED. He summarized the study by pointing out among other things, that Utah ranked mid-range in terms of incentive dollars and total taxes.

Business Attraction: Stan Lockhart reported that there were no additional updates since the last meeting, however they expect to hold another sub committee meeting prior to the next UTIC meeting.

New Business Development: Suzanne Winters and Brad Bertoch reported that they have identified some members for this committee as well as some of the issues that the committee will address, which includes lobbying for increased funding for the Centers of Excellence program. The point was made that the State's budget is monopolized by Education and Medicaid which creates a challenge for getting increased funding. The chairman suggested that someone with a strong working knowledge of that issue be placed on the committee so that they can help to identify opportunities where funding may be obtained.

Brad Bertoch requested that he be provided with an outline of how the State's budget is funded and allocated, so that the information can be reviewed to see if there are any loopholes through which additional funding can be generated. Mark Renda agreed to provide him with this information.

Business Retention/Expansion: With Kevin Cummings being absent from the meeting, no report was presented on this issue.

The chairman made a recommendation that each member of the council become involved in the committees to provide input and assist the Chairs. He suggested that notification of subcommittee meetings be sent to all voting members of the Council to give them an opportunity to attend those meetings. He also suggested that if members have names of individuals who they believe has expertise on a particular issue, they should submit those names to the relevant committee Chair for consideration. He pointed out that these persons should be drawn from the broader sector of the industry such as technology users, accountants, attorneys etc., in order to secure their buy-in on initiatives that will be undertaken by the Council.

Peter Genereaux suggested that a representative from each of the 3 technology sub-sectors be appointed to each of the committees to ensure that their insights and viewpoints are factored in.

Other Business:

Retreat: The chairman suggested and the members unanimously agreed to move the date for the retreat from the last week in August to the middle of September, in order to give more lead time to some key people who the chairman would like to invite to share their remarks with council members at the retreat.

UTIC Presentation at UTC Meeting: The chairman informed the members that the UTC has scheduled their next meeting for August 21 at 1:00pm at the State Capitol and that the UTIC is on the agenda to make a presentation. It was pointed out that a number of Council members will be unable to attend due to the UITA Luncheon being held that afternoon. The Chairman agreed to speak with the Chairman of the UTC with a view to getting them to move the UTIC presentation to the last item on their agenda. He will notify members if the change occurs.

The chairman outlined in a presentation, the agenda items that the UTIC will address which include 5 minute reports by each committee Chairpersons and a 5 minute Q&A period. He asked the committee Chairs to prepare their messages in presentation format and send it to him so that he can insert the graphics and background to have a consistent look throughout the presentation.

Mission Statement: Peter Genereaux suggested that the council develop a statement outlining where the technology industry is today and what the UTIC envisions that landscape to look like in the future, backed up by supporting data. After discussion as to where such information can be acquired, the Chairman asked Mr. Genereaux to assist him with the process of gathering this information.

Next meeting: Scheduling of the next meeting was put off due to uncertainty as to whether or not the UTC meeting on August 21 will be rescheduled. The Chairman will notify council members when the matter is resolved.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:50am.